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The Boy Who Gave His Everything



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Chapter 1 by ChemicallyInsane

The Arizona sun lazily dropped in between the ominous mountains in Greer, Apache County. Xander and his family took the small grassy mesa's on their bike's. Xander kept a tight, firm, grip on his, handlebars and sat forward like the leisurely bike ride to John's Incredible Pizza was a race to him. He got to the top of the largest hilltop and scanned the decline, deciding whether or not to warn his siblings. There was a small inlet to the left from the Bunch Reservoir, and some craggy pieces on the descent to the bottom.

"Ryan, Jaden!"

You can hear a faint scrunch of grass against abruptly stopped bike tires. "Watch it Dehlia."

Jaden muttered. Dehlia muttered something I shouldn't repeat, but Xander heard.

"No real reason to talk like that, the both of you."

They both looked down and Xander looked at the 3rd youngest of the group. (There was one more.) "Careful, the sink to the bottom of this one is a bit demanding." Jade nodded and he looked to Saxby, (Who was in a backpack) the absolute youngest. He was about 2.

"You got this?" He nodded, his undercut hair bobbing with him.

"Let's go then." Xander hops back into his bike and leaned down the hill. The others came down, deciding to pedal. To avoid getting trodden on by the bikes he shoots up a boulder and lands on

the floor away from the rest of the pack.

"No more of that please," Xander just barely loud enough to get over the bothersome noise. "Is enough of them, they sound like a chainsaw, or worse. They are terrible, the only downside to living in a small town like this, in the city the noise of the latter sounds over runs

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the insects. Everybody screamed a in-coherent thing back to their older brother. Saxby leaned in Xander's ear and politely asked if they were almost there.

"Almost Sax, almost." He pedaled a bit faster.

"It's okay if we don't make it Bear, it's not a big deal." Xander shook his head, almost violently. He had a normal childhood and although he really couldn't afford it, he was going to make sure they did to.

"I promised and I never break a promise right Sax?" Saxby nodded. They entered a small woodland, and Xander attentively watched the woods. This being Arizona, no matter where you were, it was cougar country and in Greer, people went missing almost daily. A shadow flashed and Jaden fell off his bike in fright. Xander jumped off his and helped Jaden up.

"Jade and Dehlia, in the middle. Keep close and keep your eyes ahead." He looked across their faces and as he met eyes, they shook their head. He got back on his bike and they continued to pump their feet as they make it out of the thicket. The lights of John's Incredible Pizza came into Xander's line of sight. Saxby squealed and started kicking in the backpack.

"WE'RE HERE!!!!" The two year old screamed in Xander's ear and he smiled. "Yep. Get the bike chains Saxby." There was some more movement in the pack.

Xander skidded to a stop and hopped off his bike, taking the backpack off gently. Saxby crawls out, bike chains in hand.

"Hear Bear." Saxby hands the chains to Xander. Xander takes the chains and picks out his, handing them back to Saxby.

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